

Top 10 Rules Ready for Review and Reform

After significant review and analysis of the 82 nominations received, the Chief Counsel for Advocacy selected the following nominations as the 2008 Top 10 Rules for Review and Reform, listed here in alphabetical order by agency:

<u>Rule</u>	<u>Agency</u>	<u>Description</u>
Update air monitoring rules for dry cleaners to reflect current technology	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Revise testing requirements to reward environmentally friendly dry cleaning methods.
Flexibility for community drinking water systems	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Expand ways for small communities to meet protective drinking water standards.
Simplify the rules for recycling solid wastes	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Simplify the rules for recycling useful materials that, because of their current classification, must be handled, transported, and disposed of as hazardous wastes.
Clearly define “oil” in oil spill rules	Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Clarify the definition of “oil” in the oil spill program, so that small facilities storing nonpetroleum-based products are not unintentionally captured by spill program requirements.
Update flight rules for the Washington, DC, regional area	Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)	Review the flight restriction rule for the region surrounding Washington, DC, to determine whether it could be revised to avoid harming small airports within the region.
Eliminate duplicative financial requirements for architect-engineering services firms in government contracting	Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Council	Remove or reduce duplicative retainage requirements in architect-engineering services contracts, as has been done for other services.
Simplify the home office business deduction	Internal Revenue Service (IRS)	Permit a standard deduction for home-based businesses, which constitute 53 percent of all small businesses.
Update rules on the use of explosives in mines to reflect modern industry standards	Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)	Update to be consistent with modern mining industry explosives standards.
Medical/laboratory worker rule	Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)	Review to determine whether the rule can be made more flexible in situations where workers do not

		have potential exposure to bloodborne pathogens.
Reverse auction techniques for online procurement	Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP)	Review system to examine how reverse auctions impact small firms.

Find out more about the r3 initiative and agency progress in reviewing the Top 10 rules by visiting www.sba.gov/advo/r3.

The Office of Advocacy, the “small business watchdog” of the federal government, examines the role and status of small business in the economy and independently represents the views of small business to federal agencies, Congress, and the President. It is the source for small business statistics presented in user-friendly formats, and it funds research into small business issues.

###

The Office of Advocacy of the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) is an independent voice for small business within the federal government. The presidentially appointed Chief Counsel for Advocacy advances the views, concerns, interests of small business before Congress, the White House, federal agencies, federal courts, and state policy makers. For more information, visit www.sba.gov/advo, or call (202) 205-6533.